



MASSWILDLIFE

## DIVISION OF FISHERIES & WILDLIFE

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**MASS.GOV/MASSWILDLIFE**

May 19, 2021

Chris McGowan, Superintendent  
Department of Public Works  
Town of Clinton  
242 Church Street  
Clinton MA, 01510

Dear Chris,

RE: Approved Forest Cutting Plan for harvest at Wekepeke Conservation Restriction property

Dear Chris,

The Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (MassWildlife) has completed its review of a Forest Cutting Plan and treatment of invasive plant species at the Wekepeke Wildlife Conservation Easement recently submitted by forester Mike Barry. As you know the property is subject to a Conservation Restriction (CR) held by MassWildlife. The work as proposed is consistent with the CR, upholding the stated Purposes of the Restriction and adhering to forestry management and invasive species treatment as permitted in Section III.

Please note that compliance with the CR also requires approval of this proposed forestry work from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation & Recreation for compliance with Forest Cutting Practices Act (MGL Ch. 132), and from the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife for compliance with the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MESA) (MGL Ch. 131A). All work must be consistent with regulations pursuant to both the Forest Cutting Practices Act and MESA.

I would also like to call attention to Exhibit C of the recorded CR document titled, *Forest Management Standards to Enhance and Maintain Native Biodiversity on Forestland Subject to Conservation Restrictions Administered by the Commonwealth*. In summary, Exhibit C sets standards for forest management practices including but not limited to: implementation of Forestry Best Management Practices; locating and mapping vernal pools; retaining woody debris; securing adequate retention mast-producing trees such as oak and cherry, and cover-producing trees such as hemlock and white pine; waiting >5 years before another cut on slopes >30%. Please refer to the recorded CR for the full text of Exhibit C.

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Please note the CR also requires that you notify MassWildlife if an amendment or extension of this cutting plan is approved by DCR. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Liz

Liz Newlands  
MassWildlife CR Stewardship Coordinator  
[Elizabeth.Newlands@state.ma.us](mailto:Elizabeth.Newlands@state.ma.us)

cc      Mike Barry, Bay State Forestry  
         Scott Kemp, MassWildlife  
         Todd Olanyk, MassWildlife  
         Rebecca Zimmerer, MassWildlife